

## Fredon Facts & Features

**March 2021** 



## **Upcoming Recycling Dates**

Monday March 1st 5 AM Monday March 15th 5 AM



Recycling pick-up takes place on the **first** and **third** Monday of each month. Please place recyclables out for the scheduled day regardless of any holidays. Place containers out on the **Sunday night before** the scheduled pick-up day.

More information on single stream recycling can be found on the web site <u>here</u>.

# Facebook is helpful, but...

Residents are encouraged to contact the Township by phone, email or to check the Township **website** with any questions or concerns rather



than relying solely on the answers from questions posed on

Facebook. There have been responses to questions that have been inaccurate and misleading regarding the Township's ordinances, requirements, codes and regulations. It is the goal of the Township to provide you with the most accurate information so that a project or activity doesn't cost you more time and money in the end.

The Fredon Township website provides considerable information and is a valuable resource. Is everything on the **website**? No. So please don't hesitate to call or email with questions or concerns. Employees are in the office 8AM-4PM, Monday through Friday.

## Come to a Meeting!

The Fredon Township Committee welcomes any comments or suggestions from Township residents. Residents are encouraged to attend any of the Township Committee meetings, which are currently held in-person with face coverings and social distancing.

Residents may contact Committee members through Suzanne Boland, Municipal Clerk at 973-383-7025, Ext. 22 or at the numbers below.

Mayor John Flora

207-230-4967

Deputy Mayor Guy Masi

973-670-9867

Committeeman Glenn Deitz

973-333-4244

Committeeman Carl Lazzaro

973-464-5030

Committeeman John Richardson

973-222-8196



## March 2021 Meeting Schedule



Day	Date	Time	Board/Committee
Monday	1st	7:30PM	Environmental Commission
Monday	8th	7 PM	Township Committee
Monday	15th	7:30 PM	Land Use Board
Wednesday	17th	7 PM	Recreation Commission
Monday	22nd	7 PM	Township Committee

#### **Budget Season Is Here**

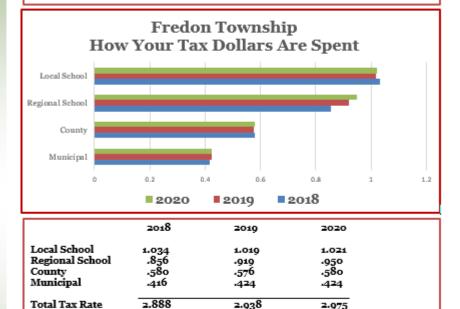
## Get Involved in Your Community!

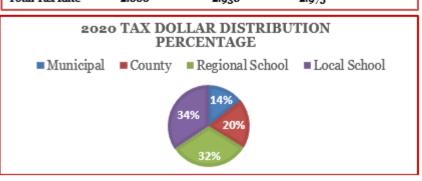
There are many contributors to the amount of taxes you pay to the Township, and perhaps most surprisingly the portion of your taxes that go directly to the municipality to fund roads, services, fire protection, emergency medical services, recreation programs, facilities and employees is the smallest portion at only 14% of your tax dollar. Included in the non-spending 14% is required appropriation entitled "Reserve Uncollected Taxes", which makes up 4% of the municipal portion of your tax bill. Budgets for the upcoming year are being discussed and planned for at the County, Fredon School and Kittatinny Regional High School, along with the municipality, so take the time to attend some meetings at the local, regional and county levels and get involved!

#### 2020 Tax Levy in Dollars

Local School (Fredon)
Regional School (Kittatinny)
County
Municipal (local purpose)
Total All Levies

\$4,441,576.00 \$4,132,527.00 \$2,519,216.78 \$1,846,112.00 \$12,939,431.78





## 2020 SENIOR TAX FREEZE PROPERTY TAX REIMBURSEMENT

## 2020

## Eligibility Requirements

You were 65 or older on December 31, 2019 Or if you were receiving Social Security Disability payments on December 31, 2019 and also on December 31, 2020;

and

You have lived in New Jersey continuously since December 31, 2019 as an owner or renter

and

You have owned and lived in your home since December 31, 2016;

and

You paid all 2019 and 2020 property taxes by June 1, 2020;

and

Your annual income did not exceed \$91,505.00 in 2019 and \$92,969.00 in 2020 including Social Security, pension, etc.

Senior Freeze Property Tax Reimbursement Information Line 1-800-882-6597

## FREDON RECREATION SOCCER

#### NOW REGISTERING!

### Spring will come, as difficult as it may be to imagine at this moment!

Spring Soccer Registration will be open March 1st through March 26th at the Fredon Township Recrea-Participants must be at tion Commission website.





#### **Property Assessment Postcards** and Appeal Information

The Annual Notice of Assessment posthave cards mailed been out. They are white this year. If you did not



receive your card or lost it you can view/ download your postcard from the NJ Association of County Tax Boards'

website:

## NJ Assessment Records Search

On the search page put in your last name and click on the search. Click on your name and the postcard information button will be on the top left side of the page.

2021 Assessment Appeal Forms are available on the Sussex County Tax Board or click this link to view/download the forms and instructions:

Tax Appeal Packet

#### **Neither Snow Nor Rain ..." Is Not** the United States Postal Service's **Motto (or Policy)**

This winter has been tough for many people and many reasons. Postal officials are asking for the public's co-

operation in keeping mailboxes, steps, and sidewalks clear of snow and ice, so letter carriers are able to provide the safest, most efficient delivery service possible.

The Postal Service is asking customers to help keep their letter carrier safe this winter through the following actions:

- Clear enough snow from curbside boxes to allow mail trucks to approach the box, deliver the mail and to drive away from the box without danger of the need for backing.
- Walkways should be cleared of snow and ice and allow enough traction to avoid slips, trips or falls.
- Steps should also be kept clear of ice and snow and in good repair so as not to cause injury to the letter carriers or others who visit the customer's home.

Overhangs should be clear and free of snow and ice to avoid injury.

Residents who receive delivery to roadside mailboxes also must keep the approach to, and exit from, the mailbox clear of snow or any other obstacles, like trash cans and other vehicles. The carrier needs to get in, and then out, without leaving the vehicle or backing up, officials say.

# County of Sussex Introduces New COVID-19 Vaccination Appointment Notification System

Those who live, work or attend school in Sussex County can now register to be notified of upcoming available appointments for the County of Sussex COVID-19 vaccine clinics at the Sussex County Fairgrounds.

Click here: Register

### MUNICIPAL OFFICES CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Due to the current status of the COVID-19 Pandemic, it is with regret that the Fredon Township Municipal Building will be closed to the public until further notice to all non -essential business for the health and safety of our employees and our community as a whole. While we are not open to the public, we are in the office to assist our residents by phone. Click here for the directory or call 973-383-7025. We will do our best to continue to meet the needs of our residents while practicing the advice of "social distancing".



All drop-offs (tax payments, zoning and building permits, dog licenses, etc.) can be put in the drop box to the left of the front doors. Employees are

checking the Drop Box throughout the day.

If you have any questions or if you would like to make an appointment for business of a personal nature, <u>please contact the appropriate office</u>. We will do our best to respond to your needs promptly. For the health and safety of our residents and employees, <u>masks are required to be worn</u> to enter the building.

## **ATTENTION SENIORS**

The Sussex County Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Senior Services publishes a monthly newsletter with information on support groups, tips, events, meetings, etc.

relevant to seniors. <u>Click</u> here for the <u>March</u> publication



# Electronics Recycling

March 27 May 22 July 24 October 23



Examples include computers, printers, televisions, vcrs, cellphones, stereo equipment, and other electronic media devices.

Limits up to 5 units for free/per vehicle. Scale charge for larger quantities.

## DID YOU KNOW?

### 2021 Schedule



The Sussex County MUA provides the following Recycling Services to residents and businesses:



#### Household Hazardous Waste Days - 6/5/21 & 11/6/21

Information: 973-579-6998

www.scmua.org

Dispose of lead & oil base paints, stains, thinners, pool chemicals, mercury, lubricants, chlorine, driveway sealer, fluorescent bulbs, household batteries and more. Limits: 100 lbs dry, 10 gal liquid waste, 25 fluorescent bulbs per vehicle Scale charge for larger quantities



#### Electronics\* Recycling Days - 3/27, 5/22, 7/24 & 10/23/21

\*Landfill disposal ban on certain electronics - See www.scmua.org Examples include: computers, printers, cell phones, televisions, VCR's,

DVD & CD's, fax & copiers, radio & stereos, etc. Limits: Up to 5 units per vehicle Scale charge for larger quantities



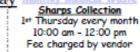
#### SCMUA Recycling Center - Monday through Saturday

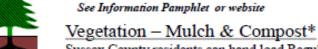
Sharps Collection Commingled Containers (glass, plastic & aluminum), drink cartons

Chipboard (gray paperboard) Styrofoam (packaging only) Cardboard Office Paper & Junk Mail

Motor Oil/Antifreeze Newsprint American Flags

Clothing \*Household Batteries - Sorting requirements





\*\*Over 10 Years!\*\* 3rd Friday of every month 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Charge by volume \$6.00 min -NO LIMIT

Sussex County residents can hand load Regular Mulch and Compost for free! (\*The SCMUA will load Colorized Mulch & Compost for a nominal fee)

34 Route 94, Lafayette, NJ 07848

Hours of Operation: Monday-Saturday 7:00 am - 2:00 pm



Recycling pick-up takes place on the **first** and **third** Monday of each month. Please place recyclables out for the scheduled day regardless of any holidays. Place containers out on the **Sunday night before** the scheduled pick-up day. More information on **RECYCLE** single stream recycling can be found on the web site <u>here</u>.

> **Upcoming Recycling** Monday March 1st 5 AM Monday March 15th 5 AM





## **Answers to Frequently Asked**

## Tax Questions...

#### When are tax bills mailed?

Tax bills are mailed out once a year in late June or early July, following certification of the rate by the Sussex County Tax Board. New bills are not mailed when there is a change in ownership. You must contact the tax office and request a bill.

#### When are tax payments due?

Property taxes are billed in Fredon on a calendar year, January 1st to December 31st. The first quarter is due on February 1st and covers Jan.-March. The second quarter is due on May 1st and covers April-June. The third quarter is due on August 1st and covers July-Sept. The fourth quarter is due November 1st and covers Oct-Dec. Payments are due on the first. There is a 10 day grace period, on the 11th day interest is calculated back to the 1st. If the 10th falls on a weekend or legal holiday, you have until the next business day at the close of Municipal Building office hours to make payment without interest being charged. Failure to receive a tax bill does not exempt you from paying taxes or the interest due on delinquent taxes.

#### Can I pay my taxes online?

Yes, taxes may be paid online through the Fredon Township website. Please click <u>here</u> for the link.

#### Do you accept postmarks?

We cannot accept postmarks.

#### What if I want to change my mailing address?

This request must be made in writing and signed by the property owner, along with the block/lot, reason and sent to:

Fredon Township

Tax Assessor

443 Route 94

Newton NJ 07860

#### How do I change the name on my deed?

A deed is an official document, recorded at the county level and a new deed has to be recorded to add or delete anyone from the official record of ownership. We recommend that you seek legal assistance from an attorney or title company specializing in property transactions. If you are listed as a **Joint Tenant** no change is required but it is recommended and one needs to bring an original certified copy of the death certificate to the Tax Assessor.

#### When will I be billed for any improvements done to my property?

You will be sent a letter from the Assessor after the improvement has been issued a Certificate of Occupancy. The letter will advise you of the additional assessed value due and what year(s) are involved. The new assessment will cause additional bill(s) to be issued. The bill called an added assessment bill will be sent out in October and due November 1st (4th qtr) of the current year and February 1st and May 1st. of the following year. The added bill must be combined together with your original tax bill that was received in June. When the new bills are generated the following June, all taxes will be combined into one bill.

#### How do I go about filing an appeal?

All appeal questions should be directed to the Assessor's Office 973-383-7025, Extension #24.

#### When can I speak with the Tax Collector?

The Tax Collector, Kerri Womack, is in the office on Thursdays, from 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM. She may be reached by phone at 973-383-7025, Ext. #23.



# From the Department of Public Works...

While we hope the snow is over, there is still at least a month left for more of the white stuff.

**WINTER STORM MAINTENANCE:** Upon notification of a winter storm, the Public Works Department will call in the appropriate employees, provide them with the appropriate equipment to surface treat roads in the following manner:

#### **Pre-Storm Preparations 48-72 hours:**

- Monitor weather forecast and weather stations
- Material and supplies are verified.
- Staff are put on notice and updated on pending weather. Equipment and vehicles are inspected for readiness.

#### **During Storm:**

- It is not possible to maintain a snow and ice-free road during every storm. It is the intention of the Township to provide practical safe access to homes, businesses and municipal facilities during winter storms.
- As the storm develops and 3 to 4 inches of snow accumulates on the road surface, plowing operations will commence. Additional staff is called. Plow drivers will be dispatched to complete sections of town utilizing the standard DPW service map. Crews will plow roadways and apply salt as needed. Crews will assure emergency route are given first preference during this period.

#### **Post-Storm:**

When a storm has completely ended, crews will start their final pass. Crews will plow and salt assigned section(s). Salt is applied as needed.

**PLOWING CURB TO CURB:** The snow windrow must be pushed back as far as possible for many reasons such as:

- Storm water run-off
- Space for future snow storage
- To permit maximum possible view of traffic of the roads

#### What can Citizens do to help the Snow Removal Efforts?

- DO keep your cars parked off the street.
- DO remove snow and ice from your walkways.
- DO place the snow from your sidewalks, driveways and parking spaces onto your property or you risk having them covered when the plows come by. The DPW asks residents to be patient as we make multiple passes to clear the roads.
- DO stay off the roads if possible. Fewer cars mean that our drivers can plow without additional hazards. If you do go out, keep a safe distance from the Township's plows.
- DO clear your fire hydrants!
- DO clear the area in front of your mailbox to insure mail delivery.
- DO NOT brush snow from cars into the street.
- DO NOT shovel snow from driveways or sidewalks into the street.
- Be aware that residents are responsible for the actions of their contractors.

The Township is responsible for the municipal roads only. The Sussex County Division of Public Works is responsible for the County roads. The New Jersey Department of Transportation is responsible for State Route 94.

# Dog Licenses... Renew Every January!!

All dogs over seven months of age must be licensed annually in Fredon Township. Dog licenses were due by January 31st.

If you have not yet licensed your dog, please do so as soon as possible to avoid accruing additional late fees. The late fee is \$5.00 per month per dog.

Failure to license your dog(s) may result in a summons to appear in court,

fines and court costs in addition to the fees for the license. The license application is available for download at: <u>Dog License Application</u>

If you have any questions, please contact Patricia Carlson, Animal Licensing Official at 973-383-7025, Ext. #31.



